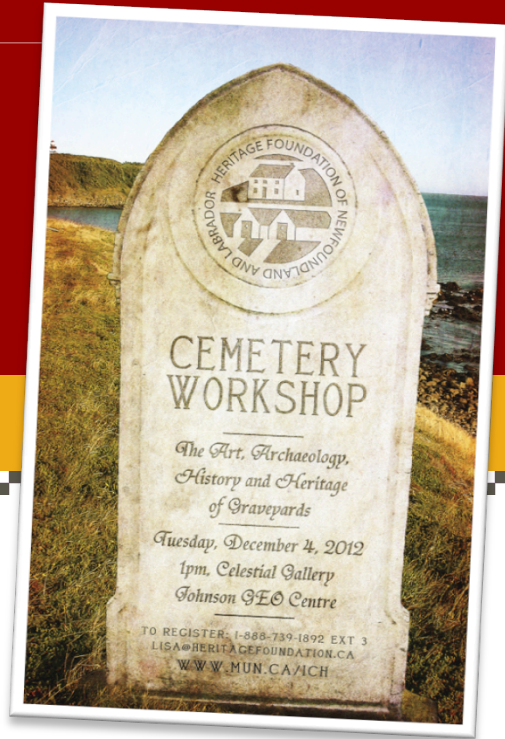


Intangible Cultural Heritage Update

News and notes on
Newfoundland and Labrador's
Intangible Cultural
Heritage Program

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Cemetery Workshop – December 4th

Cemeteries throughout Newfoundland and Labrador are revered as special, sacred places. They occupy both emotional and physical space in our communities. Cemeteries are also expressions of our spiritual beliefs and cultural values, as well as rich repositories of genealogical and community history.

On Tuesday, December 4th the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador will be running a half-day workshop, looking at the art, archaeology, history, folklore and conservation of historic graveyards in the province. It will give opportunities for participants to ask questions of the experts, including:

- Gerald Pocius, MUN Folklore - Reading Newfoundland Gravestones
- Martha Drake, Provincial Archaeology - Archaeology and the Portugal Cove Cemetery
- Melanie Tucker, The Rooms Archive - Stone Pics Database
- Andrea O'Brien, Heritage Foundation of NL - Cemeteries and Municipal Heritage Designation
- Lisa Wilson, Heritage Foundation of NL - Port Royal Restoration Project
- Annie McEwen, Folklorist - Headstone Rubbings and Maker's Marks

The workshop takes place Tuesday, December 4th, 2012, from 1pm - 5pm, at the Johnson Geo Centre Celestial Gallery, 175 Signal Hill Road, St. John's. Cost to participants is \$40 for the afternoon, with a special student rate of \$20.

To register, contact Lisa at:
1-888-739-1892 ext 3
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(Poster design by Graham Blair.)

Pouch Cove Heritage Day

By Dan Rubin

In collaboration with the Pouch Cove Library Board, the Pouch Cove Heritage Committee organized our first Pouch Cove Heritage Day, which was held on September 29th. The event was very successful, because it generated a high level of involvement by the local community. We plan to make this an annual event, with additional elements to be added to the displays, storytelling and activities that made up our first Pouch Cove Heritage Day.

One major highlight during this event was the arrival of Andy Jones, who enchanted almost a hundred people with traditional Jack Tales. Andy also brought with him the Abbie Table, an exhibit he has created incorporating a letter about traditional outport life written by a woman for her niece. It is laid out by Andy as text on three planks, to which a number of local artists have added illustrations. The result is a wonderful account of daily life in outport communities in the past.

The Pouch Cove Heritage Committee completed a series of interviews with former residents of Biscayne Cove, the fishing community that was formerly located at Cape St. Francis. These interviews were then used to develop a storyboard about the history of that community. Additional storyboards were developed about traditional fishing, farming, the settlement of Pouch Cove and the history and heritage of Shoe Cove.

What was so exciting about the event was the way in which local residents became involved. Several helped local artist Po Chun Lau create a model of a fish flake, while others demonstrated cast net knitting and Torbay residents contributed a scale model of a cod trap. These exhibits were set up in Kirbys Garden, next to the Anglican Church Hall, the venue where most of the displays and storyboards were located. In addition, the Town Hall was open with staff on hand in the library and town museum to help interpret the books and exhibits there.

It was very exciting when some local fishermen showed up spontaneously with additional artifacts and more than one hundred photos to share, which drew a lot of interest and attention from visitors who were able to identify family members among those pictured. They also brought the old stove from the Orange Hall, furs from local trapping and a whole collection of fishing and farming tools.

One of the most moving displays was the story of John C. Rose, a young man from Biscayne Cove who, at the age of nineteen had joined the Newfoundland Regiment in 1916. He was shipped to the front after training and was lost somewhere in France during the First World War. At Pouch Cove Heritage Day we displayed a large photo of John, as well as the bible donated to the Biscayne Cove United Church in his name, copies of his medals and the letter to his parents announcing his death. Three generations of the Rose family attended to help us honour his memory.



We closed off the day with a story circle, in which seven local residents shared their memories and stories from growing up in the community. These stories contributed to a shared sense of pride and celebration of the lives of those who lived in and made this community what it is today.

We need to thank the Town of Pouch Cove, the Pouch Cove Library Board, the Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation, Royal Bank and the ReStore for their wonderful support for this event.

(Photos courtesy www.pouchcoveheritage.org)

History of Deadman's Cove

By Doug Wells

Deadman's Cove is located in Harbour Breton, just a kilometre off Canada Drive in the Arm area. From the late 1800s to approximately 1944, two settlements existed there, one at the first cove called Deadman's Cove and one at the far corner of the fourth cove, called North West Corner. The 1904 census shows five families living in the Deadman's Cove/Red Head area: Peter Ashford, Orlando Bungay, George Short, Eli Short, and John Stoodley (Stoodley). Apparently, John Stoodley owned a large portion of the land at Deadman's Cove as he had a farm with cows, sheep, and vegetable gardens. It is also said that all of the Jersey Harbour Stoodleys descended from John. John Stoodley later sold all of his land at Deadman's Cove to George Short for a total of \$15.00.

It was likely that this first cove was settled because of the available land that was suitable for growing root crops and cattle feed. It was also close to a ready supply of fertilizer in the form of capelin and kelp.

Settlement at North West Corner was for the most part a winter residence for a few families from Sagona Island although in later years it was occupied year round. A lack of firewood on Sagona Island attracted families to move to North West Corner to take advantage of the wood available there. Families of Snook, Quann, Bungay, and Ashford lived at North West Corner. During the late 1930s, Ashford boys from North West Corner attended school in the old Parish Hall in Harbour Breton. The last family to leave North West Corner was that of George Ben Snook who moved to Harbour Breton in the 1940s. George Ben Snook's son, Tom married Marjorie Rose of Harbour Breton in 1944. They raised 3 girls and 5 boys. George Tom Snook from Sagona Island lived at North West Corner as well but only during the winter months.



The route from Harbour Breton to North West Corner was via the Middle Path which started at what was then known as Elliott's Farm and proceeded west to the big marsh and past the west end of Mile Pond to North West Corner. During the winter months this route was usually done by horse and slide. There was always dependence on Harbour Breton for necessary supplies and paths were well worn between Harbour Breton and the two settled areas of Deadman's Cove. According to Marjorie Snook, all of Deadman's Cove/North West Corner area was abandoned by 1944. Families of Skinner, Snook, and Quann moved to Harbour Breton and three families moved to Grand Bank.

There were a few lobster and salmon canning factories in the Deadman's Cove area over the years. During the early 1940s George Lambert and Charlie Honeycote, in partnership, operated a lobster factory in the first cove. The factory and a small tilt were located on the sandy area separating the first and second coves. Dories were kept on a frappe mooring in the shelter of the inside island. Lobsters were boiled and canned twice a week. It was common for locals from Harbour Breton to go there during the canning season and bring back flour sacks of free lobster bodies. Charlie Honeycote canned salmon at this location as well. Lobster and salmon products were sold to Gordon Petite's business in English Harbour West. The factory owners/operators at the first cove did not live at Deadman's Cove, they lived in Harbour Breton and worked there seasonally.

Sammy Skinner had a small factory in the far corner of the second cove. He also canned lobster and salmon but considerably earlier than the factories at the first cove. During the same time period, Johnny Martin fished and packed lobsters in the Connaigre Head area as well. His small factory was located in Gros Bois Hole. Deadman's Cove area is known for its run of capelin. For locals living there, capelin was a good source of fertilizer for their gardens. During the capelin scull, it was not uncommon for fishermen to come from the nearby communities of Jersey Harbour, Sagona, and sometimes from Seal Cove and Dawson's Cove to get their bait. Banking schooners hauled capelin there as well and obtained ice from locals in Harbour Breton.

During the 1970s, amateur collector Don Locke discovered Dorset Palaeo-Eskimo artifacts at the site (dating from 1500-2000 years Before Present), including endblades, microblades, thumbnail scrapers and a notched biface. These artifacts are on file at the Rooms in St. John's.



Red Head towers above the first cove, a red feldspar granite hill that is Late Proterozoic, around 570 million years old, much older than the granite in the surrounding area. An igneous intrusive rock formed beneath the earth's surface and after years of erosion the granite has become exposed to the air. Red Head and the glacial outwash of sediments forming the four beaches have produced a very impressive natural landscape. Over the years, rocks from Red Head have been used in Harbour Breton to support roadsides, caging, and used as barriers to support shoreline areas in the community.

The name Deadman's Cove probably arose from the dangerous conditions presented by the shallow water and the submerged rocks in the area. Strong onshore winds are common. These conditions would indeed render the cove a dangerous place when approaching in foggy and stormy weather. This is not to say that the local legend of Deadman's Cove doesn't hold a certain amount of truth just the same.

Deadman's Cove is recognized today for its amazing scenic beauty. Four adjoining beaches, nearby rocks and islands, birds, level banks, an amazing view of Fortune Bay, trails, boardwalks and stairways, are still attracting locals and visitors to this beautiful area of Harbour Breton.

(Photos of Deadman's Cove and Red Head courtesy of Doug Wells)

Heart's Content Update

By Lisa Wilson

As the new Heritage Outreach Officer for the HFNL, I have been making weekly trips to Heart's Content on the Bay de Verde Peninsula. It is the first community that I am working with in this new position and I've been lucky--the community has really welcomed me. My role here is to engage community members about their town's built heritage and provide support for their proposed heritage district. On my first visit to Heart's Content, I went on a walking tour where I learned about the different buildings in the district, when they were built, what purpose they had, and what transformations they have seen over the years. There has been a great deal to learn about Heart's Content--the town has a unique occupational history that moves beyond the fishery. Beginning with the landing of the transatlantic cable in 1866, Heart's Content was also a hub of activity for international communications, a role that lasted for 100 years. The district itself is centrally located and is comprised of at least 18 structures of historic interest, many of which are from the late 19th century and were built by companies such as Western Union.



During more recent visits I have been meeting with Town Council members, Mizzen Heritage Society members, and residents of the district, to get an idea of what makes this town special and why some of the people here are interested in preserving their heritage structures. As I continue visiting with more and more people, I hope to learn what parts of the district are particularly special to the people that live here and are therefore in need of attention. All of the different opinions and stories that I collect will eventually be compiled and taken back to the town so that we can then work together to discuss how to carry this unique district into the future.

(Photo by Lisa Wilson)

